



Embracing Regionalization: The Options

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Describe an opportunity or learning experience that you wish you could provide the students in your district.

EMBRACE

As we work together with local districts to help facilitate regional efforts, the Maine DOE is framing the discussion as **EMBRACE**: Enabling Maine Students to Benefit from Regional and Coordinated approaches to Education, to help focus conversations, visions, and goals that improve education for all Maine students.

EMBRACE - Options for Regionalization

- Regional Service Centers (School Management and Leadership Centers)
- Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services (FEDES) Grants
- Educational Efficiencies and Opportunities Grants
- Integrated, Consolidated 9 – 16 Educational Facility Pilot Project
- Regional School Unit (RSU) or Alternative Organization Structure (AOS)

Regional Service Centers

- Regional Service Centers (School Management and Leadership Centers)
 - Title 20-A, M.R.S.A. Chapter 123 established “School Management and Leadership Centers” in July 2017
 - Chapter 123 At A Glance
 - Guidance on Regional Service Centers
 - Application Timeline

Key Dates for Regional Service Centers

- Sept 29, 2017 – Maine DOE issued Application documents
- Nov 30, 2017 – Part I Application Due
- Dec 15, 2017 – Maine DOE will respond to Part I Applications
- April 15, 2018 – Part II Application Due
- June 8, 2018 (statewide primary) – Referendum on Interlocal Agreement and Regional Service Center Budget

Maine DOE Supports

- Facilitators
 - 11 trained facilitators for SAUs to choose from
 - Up to \$7,500 in funding per regional group
- Legal cost reimbursement
 - Up to \$2,500 in funding per regional group

Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services Grants

- Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services (FEDES) Grants
 - Title 20-A, M.R.S. Chapter 114-A established the “Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services” in 2011
 - Maine DOE Rule Chapter 122 adopted in April 2011
- Legislature provided \$5 million for 2017-18, and \$5 million for 2018-19

Key Dates for FEDES RFP

- Sept 8 – Maine DOE issued RFP #201708145
 - [Division of Purchases website](#)
- Sept 26 – Informational Session on RFP
- Oct 13 – Q & A posted [Division of Purchases website](#)
- Nov 3 – Deadline to submit written questions to Jennifer.G.Pooler@maine.gov
- Dec 19 – Proposal due date

Educational Efficiencies and Opportunities Grants

- Educational Efficiencies and Opportunities Grants
 - Funded through a Governor's Executive Order (2017-001)
 - Directed Maine DOE to develop a competitive process to award funds to assist with upfront costs associated with efforts that promote economic efficiencies within and across schools and districts that enhance the delivery of educational services for the benefit of Maine students

Educational Efficiencies and Opportunities Grants

- 7 grants were awarded in April 2017
 - Involved nearly 50 sites throughout Maine
 - Total nearly \$3 million
- 3 additional grants were awarded in June 2017
 - Involved 10 additional sites throughout Maine
 - Total close to \$1.5 million
- View a brief introduction of the 10 projects [here](#).

Integrated, Consolidated 9 – 16 Educational Facility Pilot Project

- Integrated, Consolidated 9 – 16 Educational Facility Pilot Project
 - Maine DOE/State Board of Education Rule Chapter 61, section 15
 - Governs the process and criteria for projects

Integrated, Consolidated 9 – 16 Educational Facility Pilot Project

- Jan 2017 – Two-part application released for innovative, regional school construction projects for the 2017-2018 rating cycle
 - Part 1 of application was due May 1.
 - Seven applications received
- July 2017 – Three projects were identified to complete Part 2 of application
 - Part 2 of application is due Dec 29.

Regional School Unit (RSU) or Alternative Organization Structure (AOS)

- Maine law still allows SAUs to form, join, withdraw from, or dissolve an RSU or AOS
- Please direct questions on forming, joining, withdrawing from, or dissolving an RSU or AOS to Maine DOE's School Finance Coordinator Paula Gravelle at 624-6792 or paula.b.gravelle@maine.gov .

Questions?

For more information on

embrace

Contact Maine DOE's Regionalization Project Manager
Jennifer Pooler at jennifer.g.pooler@maine.gov